

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application:

Appl. No.

09/777,592

Confirmation No.: 3158

Applicant

Frederick W. Ryan, Jr.

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Examiner

J. Bass

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STATEMENT CONCERNING COMMON OWNERSHIP

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Statement Concerning Common Ownership is being submitted concurrently with an Amendment dated October 11, 2005, to disqualify Patent Nos. 6,466,921 and 6,526,391 from being used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) against the claims of Application 09/777,592.

Application Serial No. 09/777,592 and U.S. Patent No. 6,466,921 were, at the time the invention of Application Serial No. 09/777,592 was made, commonly owned by Pitney Bowes Inc. or subject to an obligation of assignment to Pitney Bowes Inc.

Application Serial No. 09/777,592 and U.S. Patent No. 6,526,391 were, at the time the invention of Application Serial No. 09/777,592 was made, commonly owned by Pitney Bowes Inc. or subject to an obligation of assignment to Pitney Bowes Inc.

In view of the above statements, it is respectfully submitted that Patent Nos. 6,466,921 and 6,526,391 are disqualified from being used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) against the claims of Application 09/777,592.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelo N. Chaclas Reg. No. 39,134 Attorney of Record

Telephone No.: (203) 924-3844

PITNEY BOWES INC. Intellectual Property and Technology Law Department 35 Waterview Drive P.O. Box 3000 Shelton, CT 06484-8000